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## FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

To: EXAMINER RICHARD R. SHAFFERFax #: 571-273-8300Company: USPTO ART UNIT 3733From: MICHAEL D. BECKDate: MARCH 7, 2006Number of Pages: 10 (including cover sheet)MESSAGE: S.N. 10/624,066Corrected Resp. to O.A.

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1842-0018

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Johnson et al. ) Examiner: Richard R. Shaffer  
Application No.: 10/624,066 ) Art Unit: 3733  
Filed: July 21, 2003 ) Confirmation No. 5163  
TISSUE DISTRACTION DEVICE ) March 7, 2006

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**CORRECTED RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION**

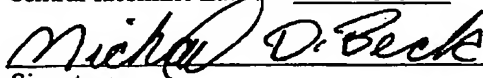
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please consider the following amendment and arguments in response to the Office Action dated January 20, 2006. Applicants had previously submitted a response dated February 22, 2006, but a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment was issued due to an incorrect claim status identifier. Although Applicants had used an acceptable alternative term, pursuant to a PTO notice dated June 6, 2005, Applicants have elected to revise the claim status identifiers to address the purported non-compliance. This corrected response is being filed within the initial three-month period which expires on April 20, 2006. Thus, it is believed that no extensions of time of associated fees are due; however, in the event that an extension is required, the Commissioner is requested to provide such extension and is authorized to deduct the necessary fees from Deposit Account 13-0014.

**Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on March 7, 2006 to the central facsimile number 571-273-8300.



Signature

Michael D. Beck

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